



For a clean, green, connected St. Louis region

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November 19, 2015

Mr. Otis Williams  
Executive Director  
St. Louis Development Corporation  
1520 Market Street  
Suite 2000  
St. Louis, MO 63101

Subject: Relocation of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) Headquarters

Dear Mr. Williams:

I am writing to show my support for NGA relocating to North St. Louis and remaining within the City of St. Louis.

We are fully committed to the development of a network of greenways and open spaces north of Downtown. Collectively, these public facilities will function as a catalyst to vastly improve the environmental quality and livability of north side neighborhoods:

- **The Trestle** – a planned one mile elevated park reutilizing an historic railroad trestle
- **McKinley Bridge Bikeway** – an existing multiuse path linking the greenway networks in Missouri and Illinois via the McKinley Bridge
- **14<sup>th</sup> Street Greenway** – a planned dedicated multiuse path and landscaping through the heart of the Choice Neighborhood Zone following 14<sup>th</sup> Street linking the Gateway Transportation Center, City Hall, Central Library, Washington Avenue, Loretta Hall Park, Preservation Square and the Trestle
- **North Riverfront Open Space and Redevelopment Plan** – a planned redevelopment between Eads and Stan Musial Bridges utilizing an emerging network of open space
- **North Riverfront Trail** – an existing 14-mile trail along the Mississippi River between the Gateway Arch and the Old Chain of Rocks Bridge
- **Bike St. Louis** – an existing partnership with the City of St. Louis to expand the on-street bicycle network throughout the city, including neighborhood in and around Downtown

These projects will enhance the substantial investment Great Rivers Greenway is making at the Gateway Arch and Central Riverfront, as part of the collaborative CityArchRiver project. With proposed connections along Cass Avenue and North Jefferson, the greenway facilities will also add value for the thousands of NGA employees, providing commuting and recreational opportunities with safe and convenient access to Downtown, the Riverfront and a variety of transit facilities.

**The Great Rivers Greenway District**

The presence of NGA in the neighborhood will help transform this blighted area of the City, spurring new development, street improvements and bicycle facilities. Furthermore, it has the opportunity to offer a high quality of life for employees with walkable neighborhood amenities, public transit access, nearby public open spaces and connections to institutions of higher learning, including Webster, Saint Louis University, Washington University and Harris-Stowe State University. This site also offers the least amount of impact to current employee commutes and its urban location is ideal for recruitment of new employees.

I look forward to working with you on the development of a safe and connected Greenway and bicycle network in the near North St. Louis site.

Sincerely,



Susan Trautman  
Executive Director  
Great Rivers Greenway